

research or development installation of one of the military departments of the United States or a contractor thereof and is considered by such military department to be an essential, nontemporary employee at such date. Such certificate shall be conclusive evidence to the Commissioner of the employment status of the mortgagor and of the mortgagor's need for housing.

Restriction.

"(b) No mortgage shall be insured under this section unless the Secretary or his designee shall have certified to the Commissioner that the housing is necessary to provide adequate housing for such civilians employed in connection with such a research or development installation and that there is no present intention to substantially curtail the number of such civilian personnel assigned or to be assigned to such installation. Such certification shall be conclusive evidence to the Commissioner of the need for such housing but if the Commissioner determines that insurance of mortgages on such housing is not an acceptable risk, he may require the Secretary to guarantee the Armed Services Housing Mortgage Insurance Fund from loss with respect to mortgages insured pursuant to this section. There are hereby authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary to provide for payment to meet losses arising from such guaranty.

Appropriations.

"(c) The Commissioner may accept any mortgage for insurance under this section without regard to any requirement in any other section of this Act, that the project or property be economically sound or an acceptable risk.

12 USC 1710,
1709.

"Armed Services
Housing Mortgage
Fund",
12 USC 1710.

"(d) Any mortgagee under a mortgage insured under this section is entitled to the benefits of insurance as provided in section 204 (a) with respect to mortgages insured under section 203.

"(e) The provisions of subsections (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (j) of section 204 shall apply to mortgages insured under this section except that as applicable to those mortgages: (1) all references to the 'Fund' or 'Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund' shall refer to the 'Armed Services Housing Mortgage Insurance Fund' and (2) all references to section 203 shall refer to this section.

12 USC 1709.

12 USC 1748-
1748f.

"(f) The provisions of sections 801, 802, 803 (c), 803 (i), 803 (j), 804 (a), 804 (b), and 807 and the provisions of section 803 (a) relating to the aggregate amount of all mortgages insured and the expiration date of the Commissioner's authority to insure under this title, shall be applicable to mortgages insured under this section."

Approved June 13, 1956.

Public Law 575

CHAPTER 382

AN ACT

June 13, 1956
[H. R. 6268]

To facilitate the construction of drainage works and other minor items on Federal reclamation and like projects.

Reclamation
drainage works,
Construction
funds.

43 USC 371 note,
54 Stat. 1119,
16 USC 590 y-
590z-10.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That funds appropriated for the construction of irrigation works authorized to be undertaken pursuant to the Federal reclamation laws (Act of June 17, 1902, 32 Stat. 388, and Acts amendatory thereof or supplementary thereto), the Act of August 11, 1939 (53 Stat. 1418), as amended, or other Acts of Congress may, insofar as such funds are available for the construction of drainage facilities and other minor items, be utilized by the Secretary of the Interior to accomplish such work by contract, by force account or, notwithstanding any other law and subject only to such reasonable terms and conditions as the Secretary shall deem appropriate for the protection of the United States, by contract entered into with the repayment organization concerned whereby said

organization shall perform such work: *Provided*, That in the event construction work to be accomplished by any one repayment organization, pursuant to contract with the United States, exceeds a total cost of \$200,000, such contract shall not be executed by the Secretary prior to the expiration of sixty calendar days (which sixty days, however, shall not include days on which either the House of Representatives or the Senate is not in session because of an adjournment of more than three days to a day certain) from the date on which it has been submitted to the Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate for reference to the appropriate Committees, except that such contract may be executed prior to expiration of such sixty days in any case in which both such Committees approve said contract and notify the Secretary in writing of such approval.

Approved June 13, 1956.

Public Law 576

CHAPTER 383

AN ACT

June 13, 1956
[H. R. 5268]

To amend section 303 of the Career Compensation Act of 1949 to authorize the payment of mileage allowances for overland travel by private conveyance outside the continental limits of the United States.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 303 of the Career Compensation Act of 1949 is amended by deleting in clause (3) of the fifth sentence thereof the words "for travel within the continental limits of the United States".

63 Stat. 813.
37 USC 253.

Approved June 13, 1956.

Public Law 577

CHAPTER 384

AN ACT

June 13, 1956
[H. R. 7679]

To provide for the conveyance of certain lands by the United States to the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is authorized and directed to convey by quitclaim deed to the city of Muskogee, Oklahoma, all the right, title, and interest of the United States in and to a tract of land containing approximately eight and sixteen one-hundredths acres located north of the existing Veterans' Administration hospital reservation situate in Muskogee County, State of Oklahoma, likewise being a portion of certain lands conveyed to the United States by the city of Muskogee by warranty deed dated March 17, 1945, recorded in the office of the clerk of Muskogee County on June 23, 1945, in book 839, pages 432 to 434, the exact courses and distances of the perimeter of which shall be determined and approved by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs. The city of Muskogee shall pay the cost of surveys as may be required by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs in determining the required legal description.

Muskogee, Oklahoma.
Conveyance.

SEC. 2. There shall be reserved to the United States all minerals, including oil and gas, in the lands authorized for conveyance by section 1, and the deed of conveyance shall contain such additional terms, conditions, reservations, and restrictions as may be determined by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs to be necessary to protect the interests of the United States.

Reservation.